

the Roadrunner

Nebraska ♦ Department ♦ of ♦ Roads

August/September 2009



Smoothing the Way

Senior Highway Maintenance Workers from the District 1 Greenwood Maintenance Yard complete asphalt patching on Highway 63, south of Interstate 80. Pictured left to right, John Bruns, Mike O'Connell and Jerry Wall.

Photo by Jay Bailey

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Nebraska Department of Roads

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Governor Dave Heineman

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Deputy DirectorRandy Peters
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District 6.....Gary Thayer
District 7Kurt Vosburg
District 8.....Mark Kovar

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The information in this newsletter is contributed
by employees, retirees and friends of NDOR.



Fredrickson Takes Helm as Roads Director



Monty Fredrickson

Monty Fredrickson was appointed by Governor Dave Heineman in July to be the Director and State Engineer of the Nebraska Department of Roads. Fredrickson took over as Acting Director at NDOR after John Craig's departure in June and has been the department's Deputy Director of Engineering since 1992.

A native of Stromsburg, Fredrickson was a mechanical engineer with Shell Oil Co. in New Orleans for a year after graduating from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 1969 with a bachelor's degree in civil engineering.

Fredrickson started his career at the department in 1970, working as a survey chief and inspector for the department's Omaha construction district. He came to Lincoln to work as a designer the following year, working his way up to assistant design engineer over the next 17 years. In that time, he worked on projects for rural and urban areas, as well as expressway and interstate projects.

Fredrickson returned to Omaha in 1988, working four years as District 2 Engineer in charge of construction and maintenance before becoming Deputy Director of Engineering. As head of engineering services for NDOR, he ran a division coordinating bridge, traffic and right-of-way studies; designing, planning and developing roadways and road improvement projects; overseeing materials and research; and working with officials in city and county government to coordinate local roads projects.

Expressing thoughts on his new post, Fredrickson said, "I look forward to working to ensure continued success in achieving our goals. In the next few years we will face many challenges and I'm confident with your support the department will continue to meet the needs of the public and accomplish our mission."

Fredrickson and his wife, Sonnie, have two sons and six grandchildren. ♦

Office of Highway Safety Moves to Roads Department

The Nebraska Office of Highway Safety has moved to the Nebraska Department of Roads. The Office will become part of NDOR's Traffic Engineering Division, which currently includes an accident records and highway safety section along with its engineering, traffic control and analysis duties. The eight employees of the Nebraska Office of Highway Safety are located at 5001 S. 14th St., in Lincoln, and can be reached at 402-471-2515. The web address is www.transportation.nebraska.gov/nohs/index.html

The primarily federally funded

Nebraska Office of Highway Safety has been a division within the Department of Motor Vehicles. The 2009 Legislature passed LB 219 which transferred the responsibility of the highway safety program to the Department of Roads from the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV).

The Nebraska Office of Highway Safety program will continue to include the child passenger restraint and occupation protection systems information and education program.

The DMV shall retain responsibility of the Motorcycle Safety Education Act.

Peters Named Deputy Director-Engineering

Nebraska Department of Roads Director Monty Fredrickson has named Randy Peters to fill his recently vacated post as Deputy Director-Engineering. Peters has served as Planning & Project Development Engineer at NDOR for the past two years and has more than 32 years of service at the department.



Randy Peters

He served in that post until 2007, when he took the post as Planning & Project Development Engineer.

Peters noted, "Knowing that NDOR has so many talented people to draw upon gives me the confidence to take up this new role. Our important challenges include: delivering the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)

projects so vital to our state's economy; keeping our current roads and bridges in good repair; positioning ourselves to make smart decisions about future improvements; and working to make our local, state, and federal interactions as effective as possible."

Peters and his wife, Kay, have been married 28 years. They have a daughter, Tessa, who attends UNL, and a son Will, along with Whitney, and granddaughter, Ellie. Peters is a Nebraska history buff and enjoys travel, spending time with family and friends, and following Big Red. ♦

Peters, a native of Bloomfield, began his career at NDOR in 1977 in the Transportation Planning Division. In 1982 he decided to pursue an engineering degree while continuing to work at NDOR. After five years, Peters earned his bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from UNL in 1987.

In 1987 Peters moved to the Roadway Design Division serving as Roadway Designer, Computer-Aided Design Coordinator, and finally as Assistant Division Head. In 1997 he was promoted to Traffic Engineering Division Manager.

Annual Report Provides NDOR Performance Overview

The Nebraska Department of Roads' ninth consecutive **annual report** presents a picture of the department's concentrated efforts to continue its progress in providing a safe, reliable, affordable, environmentally compatible transportation system, in the face of uncertain revenues.

Easy-reading information is presented in a variety of categories: safety, mobility, district highlights, environmental stewardship, local public agency oversight, research, other activities, and financial overview. A composite picture of Nebraska transportation is provided on the inside page of the back cover.

Surface Transportation Program Plans Announced

Nebraska Department of Roads' Director Monty Fredrickson recently released the fiscal year 2010 Surface Transportation Program. This program reflects how the Roads Department allocates the taxpayer's highway user dollars to provide the best statewide highway system possible for all Nebraskans and the traveling public.

The 2010 State Highway System program is published at \$487 million and is funded from state and federal highway user fees and includes \$162 million of federal funds made available by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009. The local system program for city streets and county roads totals

\$327 million and is funded with state, federal and local highway user revenues and includes \$74 million of ARRA funds.

A total of 152 new projects will be let to contract on the state highway system during fiscal year 2010 (July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010). Projects throughout the state will range in size from small projects for crack sealing, joint sealing, fog sealing, bridge repair and rehabilitation, traffic signals, intersection modifications and lighting, to large projects such as two- and four-lane grading, resurfacing, surfacing and viaducts to a continuation of six-laning the Interstate system between Lincoln

and Omaha and large Missouri River, high priority bridge projects.

Some of the larger projects include six-laning I-80 from Waverly to Greenwood, I 80 from the Missouri River bridge to 13th Street in Omaha, US Highway 20 from Royal to Plainview, Nebraska Highway 14 at the Loup River bridge South to Fullerton, Nebraska Highway 71 from Interstate 80 North to Kimball, Nebraska Highway 2 from Ashby to Hyannis, Nebraska Highway 23 from Loomis to Holdrege and Nebraska Highway 91 South and East of Taylor.

The complete program book is available at www.transportation.nebraska.gov/hwy-pgm/.



Award-winning US-81 Yankton Bridge between Nebraska and South Dakota.

Photo by Dave Tunge, Dakota Aerials

Yankton Bridge Receives America's Transportation Award

For significant transportation and environmental impacts on two states, and for successful completion of the bridge a year ahead of schedule and *under budget*, the new Yankton Bridge between Nebraska and South Dakota received an "America's Transportation Award" from the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO).

The \$24 million, four-lane, steel girder bridge crosses the Missouri River over five piers and has 14 decorative 50-foot-tall spires that are wired for lighting and extend across the bridge from Nebraska to South Dakota. It is the first time the tower design has been used on a bridge.

The Yankton Bridge was built under budget and ahead of schedule by the Nebraska Department of Roads in partnership with Jensen Construction Company of Des Moines, Iowa. Neighboring South Dakota provided supportive and cooperative efforts in

the successful completion of the U.S. 81 expanse.

The Yankton Bridge replaces the old Meridian Bridge, which was built in 1924 and served as a link between Nebraska and South Dakota for 84 years. The old bridge will be converted by the community of Yankton into a pedestrian and bicycling path.

Completion of the Yankton Bridge is the culmination of nearly 20 years of efforts by community members from both states. Noted accomplishments are: four lanes of traffic on a newly aligned roadway that provides more efficient, reliable traffic movement; enhanced environmental habitat and improved water conservation measures; a renewed pride by the area citizens in their safer, visually impressive, and sleek new structure with its accommodating route.

The award was announced during the annual Western Association of State Highway Transportation

Officials (WASHTO) meeting in Seattle, Washington on July 13. The competition to recognize the nation's outstanding transportation projects is sponsored by AASHTO, in conjunction with national safety transportation and business associates. ♦



Handy Reference Guide Addresses Erosion and Sediment Control

What is a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) and when is it needed? When are erosion checks most effective? What is the proper way to install silt fence? Why are vegetated buffers important? The answers to these and many more questions about Best Management Practices (BMP) for erosion and sediment control measures may be found in NDOR's field manual, "Construction Stormwater: Best Management Practices."

According to Ron Poe, Roadside Stabilization Unit Manager in the Environmental Section of NDOR's Planning and Project Development Division, this handy, pocket-sized manual was designed as a quick-reference guide for project managers and contractors in the field during construction projects. The manual also serves as a textbook for their erosion control certification course.

"We require all of our field personnel and contractors that do erosion control work to go through the course. A lot of our maintenance folks take it as well."

Poe said the manuals were developed after inquiries several years ago during a Project Managers Conference.

"Many project managers requested some type of small manual that they could keep in the glove box of their truck and use as quick reference material about Best Management Practices for erosion control and sediment control processes. Using manuals developed by several other DOTs as a model, NDOR designed this field guide to meet our specific needs."

Pocket-sized Manual

In addition to being pocket-sized, the manual is designed as a flip-chart with laminated pages. For ease of use in locating information, the pages are color-coded by four major sections: Project Administration, Erosion Control, Sediment Control and Good Housekeeping. Subcategories are clearly identified in each section and

bulleted notes offer additional tips. The text is written in everyday language and illustrated with charts and pictures, many providing examples of appropriate installations and poor installations of BMPs.

According to Poe, this is the first construction season the manuals have been used since they were printed last fall with a grant from the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ). He said they have been well-received, with positive feedback from both project managers and contractors.

Useful in the Field

"Everyone appreciates having a guide they can use out in the field. Contractors have told me that it's nice to have something where both the PM and the contractor can flip through it together, look at the pictures, and decide on the appropriate installation needed to correct certain erosion issues they're dealing with. It often brings about a quicker resolution."

Poe noted that the entire process of designing and writing the manual was completed over the course of a year, with the input of others in NDOR's Roadside Stabilization Unit, including Gabe Robertson, Hwy. Environmental Project Specialist; Carol Wienhold, Hwy. Environmental Biologist; and Alison Krohn, former Landscape Architect, who is now a Hwy. Project Manager in District 1. Bill Hitzeman, Hwy. Contracts Finals Supervisor in the Construction Division, helped with manual development, and Scott Brummond, Hwy. Project Manager in District 3, assisted with the review. NDOR's Graphics Unit helped with the final layout. An environmental consultant also helped during the process.



Photo by Jay Bailey

Gabe Robertson, NDOR Hwy. Environmental Project Specialist, refers to NDOR's Construction Stormwater field manual.

Krohn, who uses the manual in the field, said it is useful because it describes BMPs in simple terms and provides graphics of what they look like and how they're installed. She said it is especially helpful for temporary erosion control, noting, "If we keep the soil from mobilizing off a slope by tracking or soil roughening, we're less likely to fill up the silt fence or blow out an earth check. It's a handy resource that has led to a common understanding of the range of sediment and erosion control practices by both project sponsors and contractors. Most people don't think about the importance of site management, like where stockpiles are placed, how trash and debris are managed, and where to place a portable toilet, but all of those activities are covered under the housekeeping section and are considered to be part of stormwater management under our general permit."

In addition to filling a void within the department by providing a tool that was needed by project managers and contractors out in the field, Poe said the manual has benefited others.

"We have made the manual generic enough that not only does it fit our needs, but it can be used by local communities, cities, counties and others who may need this information." ♦

High School Students Conduct Environmental Research in District 1

By Belinda Fowler
Environmental Program Specialist

Fifteen Lincoln-area high school students in the UNL Upward Bound Program conducted research at the NDOR District 1 facility in Lincoln to see if a project at the site has a positive impact on water quality. NDOR staff involved in the project assisted students in learning and understanding real-life challenges in protecting the environment while performing essential activities for society.

Students worked six hours a week for seven weeks over summer 2009 to collect data on common water quality parameters such as temperature, conductivity and flow measurements. They shared their findings with their peers and NDOR staff during a PowerPoint presentation on July 20.

The project site is at the channel of Lynn Creek, which runs through

District 1 headquarters in Lincoln and splits the facility. In the past year, the flows through the channel have been significant and caused extensive erosion along the banks. Estimates are 800 tons of sediment loss over 45 years with acceleration since upstream development has occurred. The southwest corner of the yard is close to losing the fence due to the erosion.

Project Components

The project is expected to be let in December 2009 to contract work for a redefinition of stream bank and installation of storm water pre-treatment measures on the grounds themselves. Specific components of the pretreatments are salt reuse and reclamation system using drain tile, rain garden implementation, constructed pretreatment wetland, detention cells, and riparian buffer along the stream bank.

Lower Platte South NRD (LPS NRD) Manager, Glen Johnson, and Assistant Manager, Paul Zillig, have provided assistance throughout the concept-to-design phase. LPS NRD has also agreed to cost-share with NDOR for stream channel work, with collaborative interagency discussions. The expected cost-share amount is approximately 50 percent (estimated at \$150,000). This is a substantial funding source, and will help to support the Master Watershed Plan within the City of Lincoln boundary.

The City of Lincoln Stormwater Coordinator, Rock Kryzicki, and Senior Engineer, Ben Higgins, agreed to cost-share approximately \$8,550 with NDOR for approximately 17,200 square feet of rain gardens. The gardens are expected to reduce pollutant loading in established areas by approximately 80 percent.

(cont'd. on next page)



Research *(cont'd. from page 6)*

Chris Queen, manager of Camp-A-Way campground, adjacent to the Superior Street NDOR facility, spoke to the students about the challenges of substantial water flow through his facility, with an overview of the maintenance and history of his campground as it relates to Lynn Creek. He and his family agreed to distribute pamphlets to the general public. The pamphlets will be developed by the students and printed by NDOR's Communication Division.

Students Get Overview

District 1 staff on-site provided a tour of the facility to the students and gave them an overview of careers and operations of NDOR. The students were not aware of the scope of the work that we do and the inherent challenges in making sure the public transportation system is a safe one.

The project is expected to commence in March 2010. Interested students will have the opportunity to continue with research throughout the school year and beyond with continued guidance from the educators in Lincoln Public Schools and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.



Staff Involvement

This project would not have gotten off the ground with the appropriate design standards, permits, and goals without NDOR management approval and staff involvement, including Rich Ruby, Roger Kalkwarf, Mark Bors, Jeff Havlat, Doug Shultz, Mike Owen, Bob Carnazzo, John Baker, Kevin Donahoo, Alison Krohn, Cindy Veys, Jason Jurgens, Gabe Robertson, Ron

Poe, Steve Duecker, Nick Burnham, Mary Jo Oie and the Communication Division.

Others involved with the project included UNL Upward Bound Trio Program Students (15), Joan Mendoza-Gorham - Upward Bound Program Leader; Will Smith - Lincoln Public School instructor; Dave Gosselin, Ph.D. - School of Natural Resources-UNL; Rock Krzycki - City of Lincoln Stormwater Program Coordinator; Ben Higgins - City of Lincoln Senior Engineer; Glen Johnson - Lower Platte South NRD General Manager; Paul Zillig - LPS NRD Assistant Manager; Chris Queen - Camp-A-Way Campground Manager; Steve Hiller - City of Lincoln Parks and Recreation Department.

All NDOR staff involved in the project have affected the futures of the next generation by exposing the students to various math/science-related careers. The students were very grateful for the opportunity and the invaluable experience they gained. ♦

Above and left: Fifteen Lincoln-area high school students in the UNL Upward Bound Program conducted water quality research at a District 1 project site in Lincoln and presented their findings during a PowerPoint presentation to their peers and NDOR staff on July 20.

Photos by Jay Bailey



We Get Mail...

July 2009

NDOR District 7,

On the afternoon of June 27 at about 4:00 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 162 of Lewisville, Texas, was eastbound on US-34 east of Stratton when we met a flagman at a pavement resurfacing operation. Upon pulling away from the stop, a trailer containing luggage separated from the vehicle that was towing it. The culprit was a lost receiver pin. Within minutes of pulling to the side of the road, one of the workers produced a replacement pin and we were on our way home. I do not know if this was a State employee or a contractor, but the bottom line is the Good Turn by this individual kept our Scouts safe and on time. What could have been a timely and possibly dangerous situation was resolved quickly and efficiently. Thank you very much.

Sam Washburn
Lewisville, Texas

Editor's Note: The employee that offered assistance was Ron Smith, Construction Tech II at District 7 in McCook.



June 2009

Dear Wesley Wahlgren,

I am very pleased with the great help that the City of St. Paul received from your employees of the State Department of Roads here in St. Paul. They helped us when an 8" water main broke on Hwy. 281 & Jay Street. Their help was needed to get traffic moved to one lane so we could fix the main. Of course, this happened just before the Memorial Day holiday started. It is nice to see that the City and the State can work so closely to get the problem fixed and not get anyone hurt or have any traffic problems.

Once again, I want to thank your employees for the great job they did for the City of St. Paul during our emergency.

Charles M. Schmid
City Superintendent
City of St. Paul

Editor's Note: Wes Wahlgren is the District 4 Engineer in Grand Island. Bill Schneider, Hwy. Maintenance Supervisor at District 4 in St. Paul, was in charge of this operation.

July 22, 2009

My wife and I just passed through Nebraska coming from California. We live in Illinois and went to California via the southern route and returned via the northern route. We were extremely impressed with your rest areas; by far the best we've seen ever. In the last year we've driven through 15 states and your rest areas were the most comfortable, cleanest and most welcoming. Others like Texas and Tennessee were close seconds to you. Thanks for the nice experience. My wife and I went to college in Seward as did our youngest son. It has been about seven years since we were there last and it was a pleasant experience due in a large part to your department and its people.

Thanks, maybe there is no place like Nebraska.

Gary Spieler
Belleville, Illinois

The Department of Roads receives numerous complimentary letters. The letters printed here are representative of those often sent praising the many fine and deserving employees of the Department of Roads.

NDOR Highway Improvement Projects Currently Under Contract

Information from Trans•port SiteManager as of July 21, 2009

Location
Work Description
Prime Contractor
Project Manager
Contract Bid Amount

Key:

Aggregate - Agg
Bituminous - Bit
Bridge - Br
Building - Bldg
Concrete Pavement - ConPav
Culverts - Culv
Electrical - Elec
Grading - Gr
Guardrail - Gdrl
Landscaping - LS
Mechanically Stabilized Earth - MSE
Seeding - Seed
Speciality - Spec

District 1

Hickman Southeast
Gr, ConPav, Br, Gdrl
Christensen Bros., Inc.
Dearmont, Virgil (402)441-7681
\$653,705.60

Ulysses Northeast
Br
Christensen Bros., Inc.
Cowles, Scott (402)443-4661
\$417,560.65

Ulysses Northwest
Br
Christensen Bros., Inc.
Cowles, Scott (402)443-4661
\$517,641.10

Gilead East (Stimulus)
Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Endorf, Dennis (402)729-3489
\$2,827,034.58

Beatrice West (Stimulus)
Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Endorf, Dennis (402)729-3489
\$3,240,349.71

Blue River Bridge South of Fairbury
Br, Gdrl
The Diamond Engineering Co.
Vandegrift, Allen (402)729-3489
\$485,666.81

US-77/US-136 North, Beatrice
Bit
Constructors, Inc.
Vandegrift, Allen (402)729-3489
\$319,987.86

In Beatrice
Br, Bit
Constructors, Inc.
Vandegrift, Allen (402)729-3489
\$2,672,359.59

Fairbury South Bridges (Stimulus)
Gr, ConPav, Br, Gdrl
Hawkins Construction Co.
Vandegrift, Allen (402)729-3489
\$2,879,777.92

Weeping Water North & South
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed,
Br, Gdrl, Elec
Constructors, Inc.
Hitzeman, Don (402)335-4131
\$10,894,723.90

Weeping Water Spur
Bit
U.S. Asphalt Co.
Hitzeman, Don (402)335-4131
\$423,415.26

Nemaha South
Bit
Constructors, Inc.
Hitzeman, Don (402)335-4131
\$1,308,999.92

Salem West
Gr, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Bit
U.S. Asphalt Co.
Hitzeman, Don (402)335-4131
\$2,697,286.64

Falls City - Rulo
Bit
Constructors, Inc.
Hitzeman, Don (402)335-4131
\$1,897,130.16

Fremont South
Bit
U.S. Asphalt Co.
Sidiqi, Abdul (402)471-0850
\$1,721,187.65

Wahoo - Fremont
Gr, Culv, Seed, Bit
U.S. Asphalt Co.
Sidiqi, Abdul (402)471-0850
\$4,358,053.17

Jct. US-77/N-109
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, Elec
Constructors, Inc.
Sidiqi, Abdul (402)471-0850
\$2,818,151.82

US-77 - 9th St., Lincoln
Gr, ConPav, Seed, Br, Gdrl
TCW Construction, Inc.
Knutson, Dewaine (402)471-0850
\$1,516,528.70

Platte River Bridges
Gr, MSE Wall, ConPav, Culv,
Seed, Br, Gdrl, Fence, Sign, Elec
Hawkins Construction Co.
Knutson, Dewaine (402)471-0850
\$45,189,781.90

Tecumseh East
Bit
Constructors, Inc.
Cary, Bill (402)335-4131
\$3,360,615.16

Pickrell - Cortland
Bit
Pavers Companies
Cary, Bill (402)335-4131
\$2,392,258.25

Nebraska City Scale Building
Scale Bldg
Hampton Commercial Const., Inc.
Habegger, Michael (402)335-4131
\$246,596.00

Missouri River Br., Nebraska City
ConPav, Br, Elec
Tab Holding Company, Inc.,
dba Tab Construction
Habegger, Michael (402)335-4131
\$454,020.25

Syracuse North (Stimulus)
Gr, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Bit
U.S. Asphalt Co.
Habegger, Michael (402)335-4131
\$4,777,516.52

I-180 - 56th St., Lincoln
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, Br,
Gdrl, Fence, Elec, Sign
Dobson Brothers Const. Co. &
United Contractors Inc. (JV)
Sanburn, Bob (402)471-0850
\$48,766,667.84

Greenwood - Mahoney
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, Br,
Gdrl, Fence, Elec, Sign
Hawkins Construction Co.
England, Jim (402)471-0850
\$35,868,389.45

262nd St. Bridge
Gr, MSE, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Bit
Hawkins Construction Co.
Preble, Rodger (402)471-0850
\$2,567,442.87

202nd St. Bridge
Gr, MSE, Culv, Br, Gdrl, Fence
Hawkins Construction Co.
Preble, Rodger (402)471-0850
\$2,329,976.25

Air Park - I-180, Lincoln (Stimulus)
Br, Gdrl, Bit
Pavers Companies
Preble, Rodger (402)471-0850
\$1,989,950.28

162nd St. Bridge, Lincoln
Gr, MSE, Culv, Br, Gdrl
Commercial Construction, Inc.
Traudt, Bob (402)471-0850
\$2,231,520.32

148th St. Bridge, Lincoln
Gr, MSE, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Bit
Commercial Construction, Inc.
Traudt, Bob (402)471-0850
\$2,875,439.22

Elmwood North Bridges
Br, Gdrl, Bit
Wilke Contracting Corporation
Traudt, Bob (402)471-0850
\$309,348.40

Greenwood Maintenance Facility
Maint Facility
Cheever Const Co
Murillo, Ernest (402)471-0850
\$1,455,900.00

I-80, Goehner Truck Parking
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, Fence, Elec
Constructors, Inc.
Hobelman, Ryan (402)471-0850
\$605,573.94

East Jct. N-92 North
Gdrl, Bit
Constructors, Inc.
Kuehn, Joseph (402)471-0850
\$2,574,601.70

Prague - Dodge County Line
Br, Gdrl, Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Kuehn, Joseph (402)471-0850
\$4,594,218.98

148th St./N-2, Lincoln
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, Elec
Hawkins Construction Co.
Volz, Jason (308)345-8490
\$1,825,583.23

Ceresco South
Wetland Bank Restoration
Gr
Valley Corporation
Volz, Jason (308)345-8490
\$71,539.38

Bennet North
Bit
Constructors, Inc.
Volz, Jason (308)345-8490
\$267,574.00

District 2

In Fremont
Bit
Western Engineering Co., Inc.
Veverka, Frank (402)727-3292
\$392,553.25

Fremont East Bypass
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, Br,
Gdrl, Fence, Elec, Sign
Werner Construction, Inc.
Veverka, Frank (402)727-3292
\$26,555,563.32

Hamilton St. Viaduct, Omaha
Br
Cramer & Associates, Inc.
Baehr, Dennis (402)595-2534
\$57,178.82

US-275 East
Spec
M.E. Collins Contracting Co., Inc.
Farivari, Mo (402)595-2534
\$905,749.20

108th St. - 120th St., Omaha
LS
Lanoha Nurseries, Inc.
Farivari, Mo (402)595-2534
\$468,974.00

Missouri River Bridges, Omaha
Br
Cramer & Associates, Inc.
Farivari, Mo (402)595-2534
\$123,851.00

N-50 to Bellevue
Spec
Chester Bross Construction Co./
C.B. Equipment, Inc.
Khalaf, Zahi (402)595-2534
\$1,271,372.66

Fort St. South, Omaha
Bit
U.S. Asphalt Co.
Khalaf, Zahi (402)595-2534
\$2,716,030.66

I-80 - Dewey St., Omaha
Bit
U.S. Asphalt Co.
Khalaf, Zahi (402)595-2534
\$4,621,002.26

Plattsmouth - Omaha
Spec
Safety Grooving & Grinding, L.P.
Weander, Marty (402)595-2534
\$1,090,538.22

Bellevue West
Gr
Navarro Enterprise Constr., Inc.
Weander, Marty (402)595-2534
\$24,208.56

Dist. 2 - Districtwide
Spec
Tab Holding Company, Inc.,
dba Tab Construction
Fisher, Rick (402)595-2534
\$226,555.89

Missouri River - 13th St.,
Omaha (Stimulus)
Gr, Soil, ConPav, Culv, LS,
Fence, Elec, Sign, Paint
Hawkins Construction Co.
Fisher, Rick (402)595-2534
\$16,068,401.72

Plattsmouth North Viaducts
Br
Hawkins Construction Co.
Fox, Mike (402)595-2534
\$3,083,812.28

North Bend - Snyder
Seed, Gdrl, Bit
U.S. Asphalt Co.
Jacobs, Micky (402)727-3292
\$6,114,907.24

Jct. N-133 East
Bit
Western Engineering Co., Inc.
Kuehner, Chris (402)595-2534
\$879,167.15

Cunningham Lake Bridges
Br
Western Engineering Co., Inc.
Kuehner, Chris (402)595-2534
\$378,851.25

Melia Hill Maintenance Facility
Maint Facility
Upland Construction Co.
Kuehner, Chris (402)595-2534
\$2,450,000.00

So. Omaha Br., Main Br. Truss
Br
Jensen Construction Co.
Zelensky, Rich (402)595-2534
\$37,574,397.00

So. Omaha Br., Iowa Br. Approach
Br, Elec
Commercial Construction, Inc.
Zelensky, Rich (402)595-2534
\$13,204,975.78

So. Omaha Br., Iowa Hwy. Paving
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, Gdrl, Elec
MFT Construction Inc.
Tsvid, Aleksandra (402)595-2534
\$2,629,468.91

So. Omaha Br., Nebraska Br., -
13th & Mo. Ave.
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, LS, Elec
Hawkins Construction Co.
Hinchey, Maurice (402)595-2534
\$5,262,446.49

So. Omaha Br., Nebr. Br. Approach
Gr, Br, Gdrl, Elec
Hawkins Construction Co.
Hinchey, Maurice (402)595-2534
\$12,773,897.12

District 3

Willow Creek Recreation Rd.
Gr, Culv, Seed, Bit
Western Engineering Co., Inc.
Vanroekel, Kirk (402)483-5466
\$6,606,703.68

Tekamah East
Gr, Br, Gdrl, Bit
Herbst Construction, Inc.
Cowles, Scott (402)443-4661
\$686,848.11

Lindsay South
Bit
Paulsen, Inc.
Robertson, Ramsy (402)421-1717
\$4,232,071.59

Winnebago East
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Elec
M.E. Collins Contracting Co., Inc.
Francis, Jeff (402)375-7071
\$3,254,303.67

Hubbard North & South (Stimulus)
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Br, Gdrl
Hawkins Construction Co.
Francis, Jeff (402)375-7071
\$1,887,751.88

Jct N-12/S14h & Jct. N-12/N-57
Elec
Integrated Electrical Services, Inc.
dba Kayton Electric
Mainquist, Bill (402)370-3470
\$60,933.00

Monowi - Verdel
Gr, Culv, Seed, Gdrl, Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Becker, Roger (402)254-6552
\$2,257,733.09

In South Sioux City
Spec
Ten Point Construction Co., Inc.
Becker, Roger (402)254-6552
\$665,920.18

South Sioux City West
Spec
Ten Point Construction Co., Inc.
Becker, Roger (402)254-6552
\$103,021.10

Columbus Viaduct
Gr, MSE, ConPav, Culv, Br, Elec
Cramer & Associates, Inc.
Anderson, David (402)564-5751
\$12,941,875.76

U.S.-81 to Leigh (Stimulus)
Bit
Knife River Midwest, LLC
Trosper, Steven (402)564-5751
\$3,636,218.18

Leigh - Colfax/Dodge Co. Line
(Stimulus)
Bit
Knife River Midwest, LLC
Trosper, Steven (402)564-5751
\$2,326,024.98

Columbus South Bridges
ConPav, Br
Cramer & Associates, Inc.
Trosper, Steven (402)564-5751
\$884,368.50

Yankton Bridge
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, Br,
Fence, Gdrl, Elec, Sign
Jensen Construction Co.
Wiebelhaus, Bob (402)254-6552
\$23,903,498.78

Concord East
Br, Gdrl
Herbst Construction, Inc.
Wiebelhaus, Bob (402)254-6552
\$105,447.00

Concord Southwest (Stimulus)
Gr, Culv, Bit
A & R Construction Co.
Wiebelhaus, Bob (402)254-6552
\$361,799.75

E. Jct. US-20 - N-12
Spec
Martin Resource Mgmt. Corp.
dba Monarch Oil
Wiebelhaus, Bob (402)254-6552
\$439,813.59

Lyons North
Spec
Martin Resource Mgmt. Corp.
dba Monarch Oil
Wiebelhaus, Bob (402)254-6552
\$584,731.63

Norfolk - N-32 (2 Segments)
Spec
M.E. Collins Contracting Co., Inc.
Samuelson, Matthew (402)370-3470
\$379,967.91

Norfolk West
Gr, ConPav, Culv Seed, Br,
Gdrl, Elec
Werner Construction, Inc.
Schulz, Ron (402)370-3474
\$20,299,017.48

Elgin - US-20
Gr, Seed, Gdrl, Bit
Knife River Midwest, LLC
Lollman, Doug (402)370-3474
\$6,365,861.91

Jct. US-81/N-32, Madison
Spec
A & R Construction Co.
Lollman, Doug (402)370-3474
\$52,443.49

Neligh - N-121
Gr, Seed, Gdrl, Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Lollman, Doug (402)370-3474
\$6,624,518.65

District 4

Gilead East & West (Stimulus)
Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Endorf, Dennis (402)729-3489
\$1,619,701.77

7th St. - 9th St., In Hastings
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Elec
Werner Construction Co.
Kohmetscher, Lyle (402)462-1996
\$709,347.54

Hastings West (Stimulus)
Gr, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Elec, Bit
Vontz Paving, Inc.
Kohmetscher, Lyle (402)462-1996
\$3,599,832.60

Odessa - Kearney (WB)
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed,
Gdrl, Fence, Elec
Knife River Midwest, LLC
Farber, Tom (308)865-5434
\$11,320,248.97

Platte River - Phillips
Gr, Seed, Gdrl, Bit
Vontz Paving, Inc.
Farber, Tom (308)865-5434
\$5,397,938.95

In Kearney (Stimulus)
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Elec
Paulsen, Inc.
Farber, Tom (308)865-5434
\$2,251,125.35

Cairo - Boelus
Gr, Culv, Seed, Gdrl, Elec, Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Kwiatkowski, Rick (308)754-5411
\$4,186,132.20

NE/KS Line North
Spec
Interstate Improvement, Inc.
Grooms, Jerry (402)362-5934
\$1,699,261.98

Charleston Link
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl
Werner Construction, Inc.
Grooms, Jerry (402)362-5934
\$3,715,517.77

Charleston Link Interchange
Br, Gdrl, Bit
Commercial Construction, Inc.
Grooms, Jerry (402)362-5934
\$849,859.29

N-74 - Shelby (5 Segments)
Spec
Sealcoat Services, Inc.
dba SCS Construction Co.
Anderson, Tom (402)362-5934
\$382,264.00

Grand Island - Phillips
Bit
Vontz Paving, Inc.
Nordhues, Bob (308)385-6265
\$882,423.15

Grand Island South (Stimulus)
Gr, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Elec, Bit
The Diamond Engineering Co.
Nordhues, Bob (308)385-6265
\$6,329,248.36

Aurora - Central City
Gr, Culv, Seed, Gdrl, Elec, Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Weber, Kirk (308)385-6888
\$8,584,360.49

Ord - Burwell
Gr, Culv, Seed, Elec, Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Woodgate, Gerald (308)385-6888
\$8,121,354.49

Middle Loup Bridge, Arcadia
(Stimulus)
Gr, Br, Gdrl
Simon Contractors & Subsidiaries
Woodgate, Gerald (308)385-6888
\$1,667,006.59

Grant St. - Greenwich St.,
Grand Island
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Elec
Paulsen, Inc.
Griepentstroh, Scott (308)385-6888
\$4,495,070.38

Wood River - Grand Island
(Stimulus)
Gdrl, Bit
Vontz Paving, Inc.
Gripenstroh, Scott (308)385-6888
\$5,145,542.96

Platte River Br., South of Kearney
Br
Herbst Construction, Inc.
Schmidt, Larry (308)385-6888
\$299,177.00

Shelton Interchange
Spec
Ensley Electrical Services, Inc.
Schmidt, Larry (308)385-6888
\$376,575.00

Superior North & South
Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Meyer, Steve (402)462-1996
\$1,354,909.39

Edgar Spur (Stimulus)
Gr, Culv, Elec, Bit
Vontz Paving, Inc.
Meyer, Steve (402)462-1996
\$1,735,839.29

Kearney East Bridges
Gr, Br, Gdrl
Wilke Contracting Corporation
Sell, Tim (308)995-5397
\$706,935.17

District 5

Chappell - Oshkosh (Stimulus)
Bit
Western Engineering Co., Inc.
Frickey, Russ (308)262-1929
\$6,773,436.78

Sidney East Viaduct
ConPav, Br
Perrett Construction, Ltd.
Frickey, Russ (308)262-1929
\$758,352.76

Alliance North (South Half)
Gr, Culv, Seed, Bit
Werner Construction Co.
Carnahan, Brian (308)432-6144
\$3,123,145.03

Alliance North (North Half)
Gr, Culv, Seed, Bit
Werner Construction Co.
Carnahan, Brian (308)432-6144
\$3,382,327.18

L-7E North (Stimulus)
Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Carnahan, Brian (308)432-6144
\$3,082,922.60

Sidney - Chappell (Stimulus)
Spec
Chester Bross Constr. Co./
C.B. Equipment, Inc.
Rhamy, Wayne (308)436-6587
\$1,340,295.65

I-80 to North of Kimball
Gr, MSE, Culv, Seed, Br
Commercial Construction, Inc.
Johnson, James (308)436-6587
\$12,243,690.00

East Kimball - Potter (EB)
Bit
Werner Construction Co.
Jacobs, Maryanne (308)436-6587
\$2,974,263.00

Nebraska/Colorado Line North
(Stimulus)
Gr, Culv Seed, Gdrl, Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Jacobs, Maryanne (308)436-6587
\$4,522,732.95

Automated Gate Closure Proj. - Rural
Elec
Mid-Plains Power Inc.
Thomsen, Toby (308)535-8033
\$184,787.45

District 6

Buffalo Bill Ave. Extension
Gr, Br, Culv
Commercial Construction, Inc.
Stark, Thad (308)535-6724
\$12,081,916.94

Ogallala West
Gr, Seed, Elec, Bit
Paulsen, Inc.
Morrell, Richard (308)535-8033
\$3,086,661.01

Ogallala South
Bit
Simon Contractors & Subsidiaries
Morrell, Richard (308)535-8033
\$1,517,350.69

State Farm Rd. North, North Platte
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Br, Elec
Cement Products, Inc.
Morrell, Richard (308)535-8033
\$3,576,209.38

Maxwell Interchange (Stimulus)
Gr, ConPav, Br, Gdrl, Elec
Paulsen, Inc.
Morrell, Richard (308)535-8033
\$1,277,231.22

Thedford Viaduct (Stimulus)
Gr, MSE, ConPav, Culv,
Br, Gdrl, Elec
Ames Construction, Inc.
Thomsen, Toby (308)535-8033
\$6,954,805.22

Wallace Maintenance Facility
Maint Facility
Wayne Dowhower Constr., Inc.
Thomsen, Toby (308)535-8033
\$1,169,000.00

Thedford South
Gr, Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Thomsen, Toby (308)535-8033
\$4,627,371.44

North Platte West (Stimulus)
Spec
Iowa Erosion Control, Inc.
Thomsen, Toby (308)535-8033
\$1,692,944.57

Wellfleet South
Bit
Western Engineering Co., Inc.
Sawyer, Harlan (308)535-8033
\$1,316,727.84

Wallace South
Bit
Paulsen, Inc.
Sawyer, Harlan (308)535-8033
\$2,899,654.18

Sutherland South
Bit
Paulsen, Inc.
Sawyer, Harlan (308)535-8033
\$167,616.15

Cozad Interchange
Gr, MSE, ConPav, Br, Gdrl, Elec
Paulsen, Inc.
Brinker, Gary (308)535-8033
\$4,595,440.50

Monroe St. to I-80, Cozad
Gr, ConPav, Culv
Paulsen, Inc.
Brinker, Gary (308)535-8033
\$486,731.45

Cozad South
Gr, Seed, Gdrl, Bit
Paulsen, Inc.
Brinker, Gary (308)535-8033
\$386,734.99

Paxton Link
Br, Gdrl, Bit
Simon Contractors & Subsidiaries
Brinker, Gary (308)535-8033
\$2,349,619.99

Roscoe Link
Bit
Paulsen, Inc.
Brinker, Gary (308)535-8033
\$194,591.25

Lexington - Overton (Stimulus)
Seed, Gdrl, Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Brinker, Gary (308)535-8033
\$6,491,623.68

Darr Interchange (Stimulus)
Br, Gdrl, Bit
Paulsen, Inc.
Brinker, Gary (308)535-8033
\$1,039,544.87

Broken Bow East
Seed, Gdrl, Bit
Paulsen, Inc.
Lewandowski, Daniel (308)535-8031
\$4,595,759.73

District 7

Huntley Spur
Gr, Gdrl, Bit
Paulsen, Inc.
Kuhn, Kenton (308)995-5397
\$1,486,484.92

Loomis - Holdrege (Stimulus)
Gr, Culv, Gdrl, Elec, Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Kuhn, Kenton (308)995-5397
\$2,518,943.51

Colorado Line - Haigler
Bit
Simon Contractors & Subsidiaries
Collins, Duane (308)345-8490
\$2,921,933.56

Stratton - Jct. R44b
Gr, Seed, Gdrl, Bit
Simon Contractors & Subsidiaries
Collins, Duane (308)345-8490
\$3,628,044.61

Jct. N-89 North
Bit
Werner Construction Co.
Ziebell, Roger (308)345-8490
\$2,733,527.11

Holdrege Maintenance Facility -
Bldg # 71406, 71407, 71408
Maint Facility
Paulsen, Inc.
Dietz, Mark (308)995-5397
\$2,705,000.00

N-4 - Minden
Spec
Sta-Bilt Construction Co.
Dietz, Mark (308)995-5397
\$421,492.00

In Oxford
Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Dietz, Mark (308)995-5397
\$200,923.90

District 8

O'Neill Maintenance Facility
Maint Facility
DWB, Inc.
Colfack, Gene (402)336-2051
\$1,030,718.00

Johnstown - Ainsworth
Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Rau, Larry (402)387-2471
\$3,352,016.64

Taylor East (Stimulus)
Bit
Paulsen, Inc.
Rudnick, Michael (402)387-2471
\$2,079,214.63

Chambers Jct. North
Gr, Culv, Br, Gdrl, Elec, Bit
Knife River Midwest, Llc
Ziska, Dan (402)336-2051
\$6,898,555.05

Districtwide, D-3 & D-8
Spec
Garcia-Chicoine Enterprises, Inc.
Adkisson, Jason (402)387-2471
\$275,711.14

Key:

Aggregate - Agg
Bituminous - Bit
Bridge - Br
Building - Bldg
Concrete Pavement - ConPav
Culverts - Culv
Electrical - Elec
Grading - Gr
Guardrail - Gdrl
Landscaping - LS
Mechanically Stabilized Earth - MSE
Seeding - Seed
Specialty - Spec

WELLNESS

Cheryl Quackenbush Highway Agreement Specialist II



In the summer of 1996, Cheryl was diagnosed with Hemochromatosis (a disease in which large amounts of iron accumulate in the liver). To monitor her condition, she was scheduled for weekly blood draws.

For the next year, Cheryl's health continued to deteriorate. She was rediagnosed with NASH (non-alcoholic steatohepatitis—an inflammation of the liver due to an increase of fatty deposits which develops into cirrhosis).

In May 1998, she was placed on the active liver transplant waiting list and was given a pager to carry 24/7. She was told the wait could be two years.

The symptoms of fatigue, water retention and itchiness steadily worsened. She was able to work, but was always exhausted. Her weekends were totally dedicated to rest. In August 1999, her transplant status was moved up—she became #6 on the list. Her symptoms persisted with the addition of leg cramping.

Finally, at 2:00 a.m., March 23, 2000, the call came and off to the University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha she went. After a 6-hour surgery, a month's stay in the hospital, and several weeks recuperation at her parents, she was finally able to go home. In mid-August she returned to work for half days and was back to full-time by September.

Cheryl writes her donor family each year to let them know how she is doing. She is grateful for the liver donation that made her life-saving transplant surgery possible.

Cheryl's advice ... "I want to remind everyone what a precious gift being a donor is—the gift of Life is priceless. Awareness is the first step to being a donor."



It's a fact -- One organ donor can save eight lives.



AEDs Have Arrived at NDOR

By Carol Marshall, RN



Recently, I wrote an article for the Roadrunner about the importance of *everyone* learning Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR). As I indicated, effective bystander CPR, provided immediately after sudden cardiac arrest, can double a victim's chance of survival by helping to maintain

vital blood flow for the heart and brain, increasing the amount of time that an electric shock from an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) can be effective. I am happy to announce that NDOR has installed AEDs in the 1400, 1500 and 1600 buildings at Lincoln's central headquarters. With one located in each building, the lapsed time between Sudden Cardiac Arrest and applying a shock can be brought to within the 4 to 5 minute range where a shock can significantly increase the person's chance of surviving. That is great news for the victim, NDOR, and the First Aid Team, who will likely be the first responders!

What is an AED?

The AED is an automated computerized medical device programmed to analyze heart rhythm, recognize rhythms that require defibrillation, and provide an electric shock if one is called for. The AED provides visual and voice instruction for the device operator, telling them when to "push the button" to deliver an electric shock. A shock can't be delivered by accident. AEDs are very accurate and easy to use. With just about an hour of training, anyone can learn to operate an AED.

However, early CPR is an integral part of providing lifesaving aid to people suffering Sudden Cardiac Arrest; therefore AED training is done in conjunction with CPR training. CPR helps to circulate oxygen-rich blood to the brain, and even after the AED is attached and delivers a shock, the AED will prompt the operator to continue CPR while the device continues to analyze the victim's rhythm.

Who can use our new AED?

Anyone can operate an AED, but CPR training is highly recommended. CPR/AED trained operators will be more at ease in the stressful critical minutes of applying the AED pads, beginning CPR and following the instructions conveyed by the AED.

CPR/AED training is available through NDOR and I encourage everyone, regardless of your location in Nebraska, to take advantage of the training. AED training sessions for people with current CPR certification are

also available—check Human Resources' Learning Management System (LMS) for training schedules. Although NDOR currently only has three AEDs, they are becoming more commonplace across the state. Schools, churches, sports facilities, and shopping malls where large numbers of people gather are beginning to invest in AEDs. The more people who are trained in CPR/AED, the better the chances someone will be available to use the AED and CPR to save a life. CPR itself is a lifesaving measure. CPR is necessary in many cases where an AED isn't needed, or isn't available.

Like any other investment, NDOR will need to study the placement of other AEDs in department facilities. Currently the cost of the AED makes it cost-prohibitive to have them within the 4 to 5 minute range of every employee. Placing them is even more difficult with the mobile nature of most NDOR employees across the state. We'll be evaluating the issue involved with placing AEDs in the months to come.

First Aid Team Ready to Respond

At NDOR's central headquarters, the First Aid Team is our first line of response when a medical emergency occurs. The NDOR employees who volunteer to be on the First Aid Team are trained in First Aid, CPR, and AED. Team members' skill levels include Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT), firefighters, registered nurses, first responders and support personnel. The team has monthly meetings to keep skills sharp, learn new procedures and techniques, and improve team communication. When an emergency arises, the First Aid Team attends to the victim, notifies 911, controls bystander traffic, and helps direct the responding emergency personnel to the exact location of the emergency.

We appreciate the time and energy these individuals contribute to maintain a safe and healthy workplace. As the First Aid Team mission statement declares, members willingly and selflessly assist every person in their immediate area with medical, physical or psychological support until professional care arrives, then will assist those professionals when asked to do so.

(photo on next page)



Front row (l to r): Walt Pytko (Human Resources), James Butler (BTSD), Terri Cebuhar (Operations), Carol Marshall RN. Second row: Willie Lomack (Human Resources), Patrick Costello (BTSD), Joy Robison (ROW), Jodi Kocher (Roadway Design), Dave Hall (Material & Research). Back Row: Kent Miller (Bridge), Gary Brhel (Materials & Research), Sean Schulz (Planning & Project Development), Zach Broshears (Communication). Not pictured: Mark Beethe (ROW), Dave Brady (Construction), Terrance Buchholz (ROW), Ken Dahlke (State Patrol), Joy Doucet (Roadway Design), Sandy Forsgren (BTSD), Jennifer Huxoll (Legal), Mike Ondrak (Construction), Carla Schreiber (State Patrol), Cindy Shockey (Roadway Design), Kendall Tonjes (Project Management), Alan Whitford (BTSD).

Photo by Jay Bailey



By Steve Duecker
Highway Environmental Biologist
Planning & Project Development



Poison Ivy

Like many people, I had been exposed to poison ivy many times and nothing had ever happened. I assumed that I was immune to it. Then I crawled through some poison ivy getting out of the Snake River canyon near Valentine. Again nothing happened, until the next afternoon, when my forearms started to burn and itch. At first I did not know what it was; then I remembered the poison ivy. The next day my arms looked like they had been whipped with barbed wire. Open weeping sores developed, and I tried creams and lotions to no effect. It took a trip to the hospital for steroid and Benadryl™ shots to finally clear it up.

I decided to do a little research on our three-leaved friend. This plant produces an oily substance called urushiol, and this is what causes the reaction known as contact dermatitis. This dermatitis is delayed in its effect for 24 to 48 hours. It does not hurt right away, like stinging nettles. In some cases you may not know you even touched it.

Most people have some amount of immunity to poison ivy. A lucky few are immune for life. The problem for the rest of us, each time you expose yourself to the plant you lose some of your immunity. When the account is empty you will react. In some cases the reaction can progress to anaphylaxis and death. Also, burning poison ivy and inhaling the smoke can be fatal because this causes reaction in the lining of the lungs.

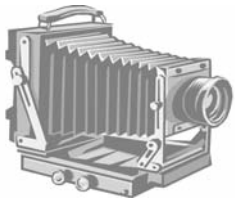


Poison Ivy
© Healthwise, Incorporated

Poison ivy is a tricky plant. It can grow as small plants among grasses (even in the middle of the Sandhills), as a shrub and as a vine. As the saying goes, "leaves of three let it be." There are several other plants that have three leaves and look similar to poison ivy. It's best to just stay away from them all if you are not sure.

It was interesting to find out that people who have reacted to poison ivy can also have reaction to mangoes. Mangoes are in the same family and their sap/bark contains a similar compound to urushiol. I guess I will have to quit climbing mango trees.

For more information go to www.poison-ivy.org/



Snapshot from History

Pictured, l to r: David F. Meeker, Secretary to Governor; Burt A. George, Legislative Representative of Nebraska Good Roads Association; Charles H. Roper, President, D.L.D. Highway Association; Mont C. Noble, Chief, Bureau of Roads and Bridges; A.A. Jones, Manager, Outdoor Advertising Company; R.L. Cochran, State Engineer; Adam McMullen, Governor of Nebraska; Frank C. Zehrung, Mayor of Lincoln.



Photo from NDOR archives

This photo, taken on June 5, 1926, documents the first highway marker erected in Nebraska. State Engineer Robert Leroy Cochran is pictured, along with other state officials. Cochran was a notable State Engineer from 1923 to 1933 for the Department of Public Works and from 1933 to 1934 for the renamed Department of Roads and Irrigation. He served as Governor of Nebraska from

1935 to 1941. Cochran came out of retirement in 1959, to again work as a State Engineer for the newly named Nebraska Department of Roads. He served a total of 12 years as State Engineer. To read about Cochran's ascension from the Sandhills to the Statehouse go to www.transportation.nebraska.gov/roadrunner/add-docs/cochran.pdf.

All in the Family

Information for "All in the Family" should be sent to the Communication Division. Appropriate information will be included in future Roadrunners.

Please note: Birth announcements will be published as long as written permission is received by the Communication Division. This is necessary, as NDOR is required to adhere to privacy laws under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA).

Births

Bob and Barb Traudt are first-time grandparents to Ariauna Marie, born May 23. Bob is a Hwy. Project Manager at District 1 in Lincoln and Barb is the Administrative Assistant in Materials & Research.

Congratulations to Todd and Brenda Wicken on the birth of their grandson, Jackson Scott, born June 22. Todd is a ROW Agent II.

Arla Dorn is a new great-grandma to Wyatt David, born on July 7. Arla recently retired as a Buyer in Operations.

Congratulations to Brandon and Bradette Varilek on the birth of their son, William Wesley, born May 27. Brandon is Assistant Pavement Design Engineer in Materials & Research.

Congratulations to Dennis and Erna Blount on the birth of their grandson, Kale Davidson, born May 19. Dennis is the Hwy Maintenance Superintendent at District 1 in Auburn.

Jan and Duane Collins are grandparents for the second time, with the birth of granddaughter Madelyn Ann on May 14. Jan is Administrative Assistant and Duane is Project Manager at District 7 in McCook.

Condolences

Condolences to Jay Brinkmeyer on the death of his mother. Jay is a Highway Cost Estimator in Construction.

Condolences to Mark Carlborn on the death of his father. Mark is a Hwy. Materials & Tests Tech in Materials & Research. Also to Amy Smith on the death of her grandfather. Amy is a Hwy. Inventory Technician in Materials & Research.

Condolences to Linda and Rick Nelson on the death of Linda's father. Linda is an Office Clerk II in Traffic Engineering, Highway Safety/Accident Records.

Condolences to Jody and Mike Parrott and Todd Parrott on the loss of Jody's mother and Todd's grandmother. Jody is a Transportation Planner I in Materials & Research. Mike is a

All in the Family (cont'd.)

Hwy. Designer III and Todd is a Hwy. Designer II, both in Roadway Design.

Condolences to family, friends and former co-workers of Gerald "Jerry" Mueller, who passed away June 20. Gerald retired from NDOR in 2006, after 46 years of service. He was a Hwy. Project Manager at District 1 in Tecumseh.

District 1 extends condolences to Dennis and Erna Blount on the loss of Dennis's mother and his sister. Dennis is the Hwy. Maintenance Superintendent at District 1 in Auburn.

Condolences to family, friends and co-workers of Dennis White, Highway Project Manager at District 6 in Broken Bow, who passed away June 26.

Weddings

Congratulations to Jeni Lautenschlager and Justin Dohmen on their June 13 marriage. Jeni is a Human Resources Manager.

Congratulations to Annie Hitzeman and Shawn Othmer who were married on July 18. Annie is the daughter of Sharon and Bill Hitzeman. Bill is the Hwy. Construction Finals Supervisor in Construction.

Congratulations to Andrew and Brittany Krog who were married on June 27. Andrew is an Engineer II at District 1 in Lincoln.

Congratulations to David and Donna Shafer who were married on June 14. David is Auto/Diesel Mechanic at District 6 in North Platte.

Gary Lopez married Michelle Kissinger on May 22. Gary is Hwy. Maintenance Supervisor at District 6 in North Platte.

Jake Graff and Jeri Ewolt were married on June 6 in Ainsworth. Jake is the son of Brenda and Marty Graff. Brenda is a Hwy. Maintenance Worker Sr. at District 8 in Ainsworth.

Kristy McKimney and Dustin Peterson were married on June 20. Kristy is the daughter of Stanley and Shelley McKimney. Stanley is a Hwy. Maintenance Worker Sr. at District 8 in Ainsworth.

This 'n That

Right-of-Way welcomes Dave Holland back to the office after his surgery. Dave is an Appraisal Review Supervisor.

Planning & Project Development welcomes back Randy ElDorado as Planning & Location Studies Engineer. He returns after working at Kirkham, Michael & Associates, Inc. Prior to that, he worked in the division as Agreements Engineer.

Congratulations to Amy Gasper, daughter of Carole and Lou Gasper, on her graduation June 7 from Lincoln High School. Carole is an Accident Records Supervisor with Traffic Engineering, Highway Safety/Accident Records.

Congratulations to Brian Miller who received a bachelor's degree in biology from UNL. Brian is the son of Jim and Gail Miller. Jim is a Hwy. Materials & Tests Manager in Materials & Research.

Trevor Hasenkamp's Men's Class "D" softball team won gold medals at the Cornhusker State games. Trevor is a IT Support Analyst in Materials & Research.

Roadway Design congratulates Barb Engel, Administrative Assistant, on her retirement July 31 after 52 years of service.

Operations congratulates Arla Dorn, Buyer, on her retirement August 5 after 30 years of service.

Local Projects congratulates LeRoy Juengel, Secondary Roads Engineer, on his retirement August 30 after 47 years of service.

RoadToasters was named a 2008-2009 Select Distinguished Club. The award recognizes exemplary achievement in attaining membership and educational goals. Also, congratulations to the new 2009-2010 RoadToasters officers: President - Glenn Williams, Business Technology Support; Vice President, Education - Brad Finch, Materials & Research; Vice President, Membership - Linda Wilson, Communication; Vice President, Public Relations - Deusilene Schneider, Roadway Design; Secretary - Ryan Omel, Right-of-Way; Treasurer - Katie Duong, Planning & Project Development; and Sergeant-at-Arms - Mike Owen, Roadway Design. RoadToasters is a communication and public speaking training club sponsored by NDOR and affiliated with Toastmasters International. Meetings are the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month, from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m., in the Highway Commission Room at Central Headquarters.

Jacob Friend, son of Troy and Angie Friend, participated in the National Soap Box Derby on July 17 in Akron, Ohio. His winning the Stock Division of Region 4 Soap Box Derby in North Platte made him eligible. Troy is Hwy. Maintenance Worker Sr. at District 6 in North Platte.

Andrew Kelley Selected as NASA Student Ambassador

Andrew Kelley, a UNL senior majoring in mechanical engineering, was chosen as one of NASA's first-ever Student Ambassadors. He is among 80 interns selected for this new program, which is part of the U.S. space agency's efforts to engage students in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) opportunities.

The group of **NASA Student Ambassadors** includes interns from 35 states and 64 universities. Interns will serve a one-year renewable term. Ambassadors will interact with NASA, share information, make professional connections, collaborate with peers, represent NASA in a variety of venues, and help NASA inspire and engage future interns.

Andrew is currently an intern at Kennedy Space Center with NASA's V5 Virtual Environment Support for Constellation 606E/F Ground Operations. Andrew worked in Traffic Engineering as an intern for a year. He is the son of Ed and Wanda Kelley. Ed is a GIS Analyst/Cartography Supervisor in Business Technology Support.

Service Awards

Congratulations to these dedicated individuals for their work and continued service with the Department of Roads. They celebrate their service dates in *August and September*.

40 Years

Roger Becker, District 3
James England, District 1
David Koelzer, District 4
Larry Rau, District 8
Donald Turek, Roadway Design

30 Years

Max Antoine, Bridge
Brian Burdue, District 1
Gerald Day, District 4
Chris Dunker, District 4
Chris Hasenauer, District 6
Roger Klasna, District 6
Ronald Klaus, District 1
Dee Krueger, Communication
Gary Simms, District 1

20 Years

Arnold Bickley, District 3
Theresa Cebuhar, Operations
Sylvia Hilderbrand, District 5
Fouad Jaber, Bridge
Greg Trease, District 3

10 Years

Penny Beran, District 4
Barbara Biffle, Communication
James Butler, BTSO
Darin Klussman, District 5
Tanya Marcellus, District 8
Larry Novak, District 4
Larry Schmidt, District 4
Richard Shefferd, District 1
Brock Swedberg, District 6
Terry Wemhoff, District 3

Have You Traveled Off the Beaten Path?

If you have visited an out of the way place in Nebraska that you think would be of interest to our readers, we would like to hear about it! Please submit your ideas to linda.wilson@nebraska.gov for "Off the Beaten Path."

NDOR Events Calendar

— August —

- 2-8 **National Stop on Red Week**
www.stopredlightrunning.com
- 3-28 **Charitable Giving Campaign**
Contact Diane Holthus @ 479-4580
- 11 **New Employee Orientation Program**
Rm. 152, 5001 S. 14th (the "Hill")
Contact DeWayne Morrow @ 476-3678
- 12 **RoadToasters**
12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.
Contact Glenn Williams @ 479-3628
- 21 **Bd. Public Roads Class & Stds.**
9:00 a.m., NDOR Auditorium (If workload requires)
Contact LeMoyne Schulz @ 479-4436
- 21 **Bd. Examiners for Co. Hwy. & City Street Supts.**
10:00 a.m., NDOR Materials & Research Conference Rm.
Contact LeMoyne Schulz @ 479-4436
- 21 **Hwy. Commission Meeting**
10:00 a.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.
Contact Shirley Schafer @ 479-4530
- 8/21-9/7 **Impaired Driving National Enforcement Crackdown**
www.nhtsa.dot.gov/people/injury/alcohol/StopImpaired/index02.htm
- 26 **RoadToasters**
12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.
Contact Glenn Williams @ 479-3628

— September —

- 2 **Blood Drive – Community Blood Bank**
NDOR Central Headquarters
Contact Diane Holthus @ 479-4580
- 2-4 **Bd. Examiners for Co. Hwy. & City Street Supts.**
Workshop: Sept. 2nd, 9:00 a.m. – Sept. 4th, 2:00 p.m.
Holiday Inn Express, Kearney
Contact LeMoyne Schulz @ 479-4436
- 3 **Letting**
1:30 p.m., NDOR Auditorium
Contact Liz Wunderlich @ 479-4528
- 7 **State Holiday – Labor Day**
- 9 **RoadToasters**
12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.
Contact Glenn Williams @ 479-3628
- 10 **New Employee Orientation Program**
Rm. 152, 5001 S. 14th (the "Hill")
Contact DeWayne Morrow @ 476-3678
- 11 **Patriot Day**
- 12-18 **National Child Passenger Safety Week**
www.nhtsa.dot.gov/childps/planner2009/

- 18 **Bd. Public Roads Class & Stds.**
9:00 a.m., NDOR Auditorium
Contact LeMoyne Schulz @ 479-4436
- 23 **RoadToasters**
12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.
Contact Glenn Williams @ 479-3628
- 25 **Hwy. Commission Meeting**
10:00 a.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.
Contact Shirley Schafer @ 479-4530

— October —

- International Walk to School Month**
- 2 **Bd. Examiners for Co. Hwy. & City Street Supts.**
Meeting 8:45 a.m. Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.
Examination 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. NDOR Auditorium
Contact LeMoyne Schulz @ 479-4436
- 5-9 **Drive Safely Work Week**
www.netsnational.org/dsww.asp
- 6 **New Employee Orientation Program**
Rm. 152, 5001 S. 14th (the "Hill")
Contact DeWayne Morrow @ 476-3678
- 8 **Walk to School Day**
www.iwalktoschool.org
- 8 **Letting**
1:30 p.m., NDOR Auditorium
Contact Liz Wunderlich @ 479-4528
- 10 **Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day**
www.brakesonfatalities.org
- 12 **State Holiday – Columbus Day**
- 14 **RoadToasters**
12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.
Contact Glenn Williams @ 479-3628
- 16 **Bd. Public Roads Class & Stds.**
9:00 a.m., Grand Island – Location tba
Contact LeMoyne Schulz @ 479-4436
- 18-24 **National Teen Driver Safety Week**
www.ntdsw2009.org
- 19-23 **National School Bus Safety Week**
www.napt.org/displaycommon.cfm?an=7
- 23 **Hwy. Commission Meeting**
10:00 a.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.
Contact Shirley Schafer @ 479-4530
- 28 **RoadToasters**
12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.
Contact Glenn Williams @ 479-3628

If you would like a key event included on upcoming calendars, call the Communication Office 479-4512 or e-mail linda.wilson@nebraska.gov. Information for the October/November Roadrunner should be received by September 21.




**When you're
in the driver's seat,
you make the difference!**



**Drive Smart
in Work Zones!**





www.transportation.nebraska.gov